

Legislative, Funding, and Policy Committee

January 24, 2008 Minutes

Lake Tahoe Community College

1 College Drive

South Lake Tahoe, CA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call. 4:25 pm

Sig Rogich – Absent
Kate Dargan – Present
Bud Hicks – Present
Ron McIntyre – Present
John Pickett - Present
John Upton – Present (Late)
Patrick Wright – Present

The Commission received comments and a letter from the public stating insignificant notification of the Findings and Recommendations (F&Rs) because of the way they were agendized. At tomorrow's commission meeting a letter will be handed out explaining that in the future F&Rs will be agendized by V# and description for all committees and the commission meetings. Current versions of F&Rs will be available on the Commission website. Because F&Rs were not agendized by V#, today's votes on F&Rs will be advisory and action votes will be taken next meeting.

2. Review and Approval of Minutes—Action

Minutes not available, hold for next meeting

Committee has been re-chartered with expansion of issues to be covered, the Committee name change and addition of members.

General information to be covered in this meeting

- Funding Issues
- Legislative Changes
- Hicks, F&R-TRPA Charter

Next Meeting presentations – Scheduling

- Jane Freedman SNPLMA
- CAL FIRE on funding Flows, revenues provided and what funds may be made available
- Commissioner Hicks is working on – Business plan (Framework/template with cost and staffing numbers for fire focused public education, fuels management, fire prevention, defensible space, and fire planning)

Commissioner Pickett announced that a group (DPR- Fire Districts, LRWQCB, TRPA, and others) will take 3 days to work through the planning process through to operations and find out where things are broke (This is local groups working together not a commission sponsored group)

Agenda Items 3 – 7

There are four Findings and Recommendations by Commissioner Upton – that are not in today's packet handed out

1. Economics - Fuels Management
2. Equipment for SEZ (WF Committee)
3. Commission Goals
4. Biomass (WF Committee)

F&Rs on agenda and in packet handed out

F&R to be considered:

Committee Recommendation

V-002 – CONTINUITY PLAN:

Support – rework and needs to include Feds

V-003 – INADEQUATE FUNDING:

Keep - Merge with other funding F&Rs

V-004 – UNIQUE QUALITY:

Reroute to WFC

V-006 – ECONOMIC FACTORS:

Keep and work on recommendations numbers 1 & 3. Findings numbered below should be merged with F&Rs of committees listed

1. Emergency Declaration - LFPC
2. Fire Suppression - CFSC
3. Funding Sources - LFPC
4. Biomass - WFC

V-016 – PROJECT MONITORING:

Keep for discussion

V-018 – TRPA ORDINANCES

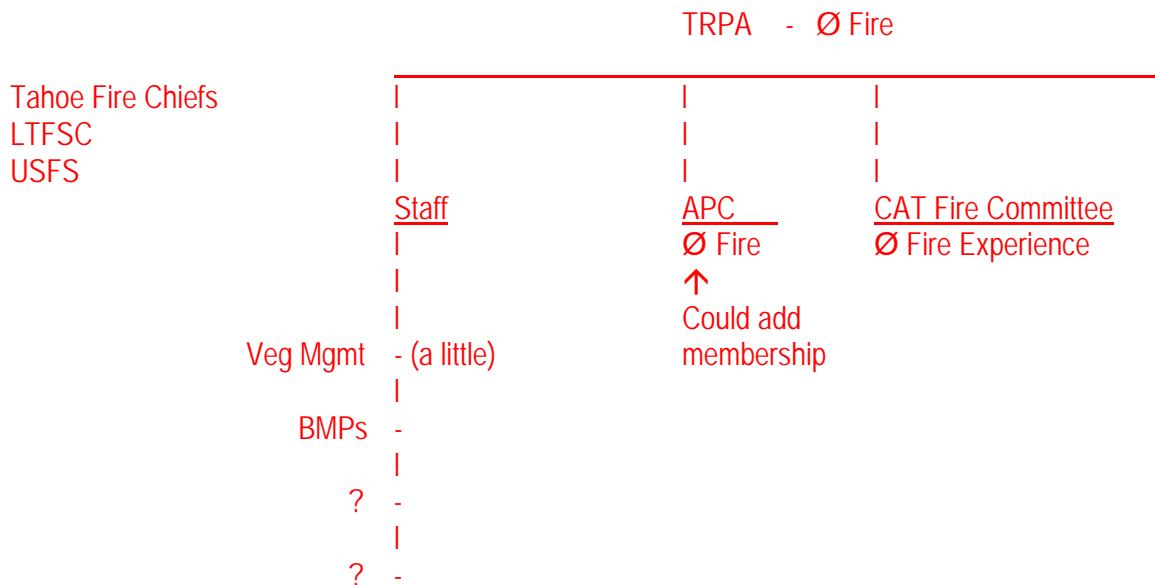
Hold for Committee meeting scheduled for February 19

V-019 – TRPA BOARD COMPOSITION

Under consideration - In Discussion now

The following is a recap of the open discussion on V – 019 TRPA Board Composition
This Finding states a need for fire experience/voice on the TRPA Board or at least in the process.

The question was asked, Where is the fire perspective within the TRPA structure, and who is it? Currently, TRPA has no members or staff with fire experience. As shown in the diagram below, there are four possible areas (Board, CAT, APC and Staff) where a fire professional or a person with fire experience can be interjected. The two areas mentioned as needing fire experience is the Board and APC. The governing board has the power to appoint an Ex-officio to their board, and CAT is made up of board members. A fire professional could also be hired as staff.



Questions to the committee - Do you want the incorporation of fire and TRPA to increase, decrease or separate? How do you want TRPA and fire to inter-relate? And who has the fire expertise?

The basin fire chiefs and the fire districts expertise is limited to structural, with little or not wildfire expertise. Fire service focus is suppression not fire prevention and planning. The thought was that it should be a Fire Marshal on the board or the APC, someone with structural, wildland and planning expertise.

The conceptual idea of TRPA did not include fire; it did include planning, transportation, conservation, land use, wildlife, water & air quality, science, recreation, and noted forest preservation. Since then the forest has changed there is a need to adopt a Forest Health

program in collaboration with stakeholders, planning, implementation and other regulatory agencies.

In October 2007, TRPA formed a fire protection committee, this committee has dialog with fire districts and makes recommendations to the governing board on BMPs and defensible space. There was a suggestion that TRPA make their fire protection committee permanent.

The present 10 year plan was written jointly with other agencies and includes annual updates. This plan only addresses fuels management, it does not address other fire issues such as roads, evacuation, public education, building codes, fire codes, water supply endangered species, habitat, etc. Though, well written it is viewed by some as out dated. Currently each agency takes care of its own land.

There was discussion of a multi agency group, made up of those doing the work, to come together and develop a single plan that will include fire; and also develop a multi agency group to implement the plan. There is a concern that if the agencies involved disagree, the group will stalemate and not move forward; this is where oversight from the Governors of California, Nevada, and the feds come in to give the parental guidance needed. Some believe that the newly formed MAC can serve as this group. The current MAC is not an official body, it is comprised of volunteers with no authority.

Another suggestion is that, the lead agency would depend on the specific issue being addressed. All agencies involved would take the role of lead, partner or support/consult agency depending on the issue (science, data gathering, strategic planning/evaluation, etc.) In this case who would take the lead? And, how do you handle the funding? The Resource Management in western United States is managed by interagency task forces. The interagency is to develop and implement the plan, and go the agencies/jurisdictions involved for funding. In the counties Fire Chiefs make the fire plans and bring in ordinance.

Because of TRPA's basin wide role a suggestion was made to partner with TRPA regarding the consolidation of a data base. This could help keep track of what is happening on every lot at any time.

Committee Members Summation Points :

- TRPA is the only agency that has basin wide jurisdiction
- TRPA is the only agency created by Congress to address this issue
- TRPA can provide a greater degree of coordination ability
- Need a fire voice/perspective at TRPA and on the APC with no change to scope
- Basin wide Database coordination
- Retrofit ordinance
- Coordination as to who is doing what
- Annual maintenance fees on lots

8. Adjournment-- Action

Sign-in Sheet
January 24, 2008

Name	Agency
Pam Robinson	LTBMU
Rochelle Nason	League to Save Lake Tahoe
Bud Hicks	Tahoe Basin Fire Commission
Patrick Wright	Tahoe Basin Fire Commission
Joanne Marchetta	TRPA
Rom McIntyre	Tahoe Basin Fire Commission
John Pickett	Tahoe Basin Fire Commission
Laurel Ames	TASC
Norma Santiago	El Dorado Co. Supervisor
John Upton	Tahoe Basin Fire Commission
Harold Singer	
Terri Marceron	US Forest Service
Jim Pena	Tahoe Basin Fire Commission

Commission Staff

Todd Ferrara
Duane Shintaku
Christine Sproul